Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A polymerizable mixture (P) comprising

A) at least one monomer or oligomer (A), each monomer or oligomer (A) having at least two polymerizable functional groups selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylate ester, epoxy, and vinyl ether groups,

B) at least one liquid crystalline monomer or oligomer (B), each monomer or oligomer (B) having at least one mesogenic group having an aromatic double ring structure, and having a single polymerizable functional group selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylate ester, epoxy, and vinyl ether groups,

C) from 1 to less than 50% by weight, based on the weight of the polymerizable mixture, of [[a]] one or more monomers (C) which [[has]] have at least one mesogenic group having an aromatic double ring structure and contain[[s]] no group which reacts substantially with the polymerizable functional groups of the monomers or oligomers (A) and (B) during polymerization of said polymerizable mixture,

said mixture, when polymerized, forming a stable polymer film.

12. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 11, in which the aromatic double ring structures are selected from the group consisting of a) two monocyclic groups each of which are linked by a single bond and are selected from the group consisting of

unsubstituted and substituted 1,4-phenylene, 2,5-pyridinylene, and 2,5-pyrenylene, b) aromatic double rings selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted and substituted 2,6-naphthylidene, 2,7-naphthylidene and 1,4-naphthylidene, and c) mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 11, wherein the mesogenic groups comprise carboxylic esters and alcohols based on phenyl, biphenyl, cyanobiphenyl, naphthyl and cyanonaphthyl derivatives, or combinations of these groups.

14. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 12, wherein the mesogenic groups comprise carboxylic esters and alcohols based on phenyl, biphenyl, cyanobiphenyl, naphthyl and cyanonaphthyl derivatives, or combinations of these groups.

15. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 11, wherein the monomers or oligomers (A) have at least one mesogenic group.

16. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 12, wherein the monomers or oligomers (A) have at least one mesogenic group.

17. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 13, wherein the monomers or oligomers (A) have at least one mesogenic group.

18. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 11, which contains from 5 to 95% by weight of monomer or oligomer (A).

19. (Previously Presented) The mixture of claim 11, which contains from 5 to 95% by weight of liquid crystalline monomer or oligomer (B).

20. (Previously Presented) An optically anisotropic polymer (F), prepared by polymerizing the polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 11.

21. (Previously Presented) An optically anisotropic polymer (F), prepared by polymerizing the polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 12.

22. (Previously Presented) An optically anisotropic polymer (F), prepared by polymerizing the polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 13.

23. (Previously Presented) An optically anisotropic polymer (F), prepared by polymerizing the polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 15.

24. (Previously Presented) The polymer (F) of claim 20 which is a nematic polymer in which the optical anisotropy Δn is greater than 0.18.

25. (Previously Presented) The optically anisotropic polymer (F) of claim 20 which is a cholesteric polymer (F) in which the optical anisotropy Δn is greater than 0.16.

26. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of an optically anisotropic polymer (F) comprising applying a polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 11 to a substrate, orienting the mixture, and a polymerizing the polymerizable mixture.

27. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of an optically anisotropic polymer (F) comprising applying a polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 12 to a substrate, orienting the mixture, and a polymerizing the polymerizable mixture.

28. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of an optically anisotropic polymer (F) comprising applying a polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 13 to a substrate, orienting the mixture, and a polymerizing the polymerizable mixture.

29. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of an optically anisotropic polymer (F) comprising applying a polymerizable mixture (P) of claim 15 to a substrate, orienting the mixture, and a polymerizing the polymerizable mixture.

30. (New) The polymer film of claim 21, which has a hardness greater than 0.12 measured using a Berkovitch diamond tip.